

Liaison with host officials and with commercial air carriers was particularly important, and provision was made for host country personnel and interpreters to accompany the team into the field. The liaison function was handled by the Canadian embassy in the host country, and certain other requirements (e.g., provision of a secure "base" facility -- in this case, in the embassy; and road transportation) were identified well in advance. A draft itinerary was prepared, bearing in mind the need for flexibility.

Details relating to the routing and refrigeration requirements for the return trip received considerable attention. Due attention was also paid to the issue of sample security and integrity of packaging.

2.2 The Team

The team from Canada consisted of two medical doctors from the Field Epidemiology Division, Laboratory Centre for Disease Control, Health and Welfare Canada; and a laboratory technician from the Toxicology Research Centre of the University of Saskatchewan.

In the field, these were accompanied on most occasions by an officer and medical technician (who also acted as an interpreter) from the Armed Forces Research Institute of Medical Sciences (AFRIMS) of the host country; and, as necessary, by Canadian embassy personnel.